BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

MISSISSIPPI

SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

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TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE

FOR THE BIENNIUM

July 1, 1955 to June 30, 1957

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1955 - 1957

GOVERNOR

James Plemon Coleman

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robert Gandy, Chairman	Jackson, Mississippi
Miss Helen Crooks, Secretary	Meridian, Mississippi
Mrs. L. L. Brown	Kosciusko, Mississippi
Mrs. Edward Cotton	Jackson, Mississippi
James A. Blount	Charleston, Mississippi
J. M. Tubb	Jackson, Mississippi
J. E. McMullan	Newton, Mississippi

FACULTY AND STAFF

Superintendent and Principal	John W. Eakes
Bookkeeper-Inventory, Boys Physical Ed.	O. Walton Stewart
Part Time Secretary, Commercial Teacher	Miss Annetta Ray
Kindergarten (sponsored by Junior League of Jackson)	Miss Sandra Sandifer
Elementary Teacher	Mrs. Charlie J. McCann
Elementary Teacher	Mrs. Carl H. Nowell
Elementary Teacher	Miss Edith Alexander
Elementary and Orchestra Teacher	Mrs. E. E. Allen
Elementary and Librarian	Miss Annie Denman
Elementary-Jr.-Sr. High and Crafts	Mrs. F. B. Pittman
Junior High Teacher	Mrs. Guy H. Bumpas
Jr.-Sr. High and Girls Physical Ed.	Miss Marveen Moody
Homemaking and Science	Mrs. Harold Gully
Vocational and Shop	Carl H. Nowell
Piano Tuning (Part Time)	W. E. Davis, Sr.
Primary Music Department	Miss Marina Alexander
Vocal and Advanced Piano Department	Mrs. Annie Kate Hart
Housemother, Girls Dormitory	Mrs. Ruby Latham
Housemother, Boys Dormitory	Mrs. Susie B. McKay
Hostess and Supervisor of Maids and Janitors,	Mrs. Alline Lewis
Dietitian	Mrs. Elma Calhoun
Maintenance and Boiler Man	Lee Nichols
Assistant Maintenance Man	Fair Johnson
Cooks, Maids, and Janitors	

NEGRO SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

FACULTY AND STAFF

Principal and Teacher	Mrs. Martha Foxx
Teacher	Ernestine Archie
Teacher	Henrietta Black
Teacher	Myrtis L. Jones
Teacher	Annie Lee Norman
Teacher	Jonas Brown
Teacher	Lennie Ross
Teacher (Part Time)	Charles W. Saulsbury
Teacher (Part Time)	Bernice Henderson
Housemother	Carrie Lee Rouser
Maintenance and Grounds	Charlie Ray Booth
Cooks, Maids, and Janitors	

(White School for the Blind)

The Mississippi School for the Blind was established in 1848, the same year the University of Mississippi was established, and both schools were governed by the same Board of Trustees. The Mississippi School for the Blind has rehabilitated many blind boys and girls during the past 109 years. Many useful and substantial citizens have been prepared for various vocations and stations in life by the aid of the instruction received here. Students from this school have contributed to the welfare and progress of Mississippi by their work in the Mississippi Legislature, and other fields of service. One of our former students served two terms from Oklahoma in the Senate of the United States of America and did a noble job.

(Negro School for the Blind)

The Mississippi Legislature made an appropriation for a Negro School for the Blind in 1948. This school plant was constructed and equipped by the State Building Commission, and instruction of the Negro children began January 12, 1951. The Negro children were enrolled at Piney Woods School before the State of Mississippi provided them with a school. Thirty-two Negro children were transferred from Piney Woods to the new State School for the Blind in Jackson. The enrollment grew to seventy-one the past biennium.

DAILY SCHEDULE

6:30	A.M.—Rising Bell
7:15	A.M.—Breakfast, straightening and Cleaning Bedroom
8:15 - 9:00	A.M.—Home Room Devotional and First Period Class
9:00 - 9:30	A.M.—Classroom Work
9:30 - 10:15	A.M.—Classroom Work
10:15 - 10:30	A.M.—Recess
10:30 - 11:00	A.M.—Classroom Work
11:00 - 11:30	A.M.—Classroom Work
11:30 - 12:00	A.M.—Classroom Work
12:00 - 12:30	P.M.—Classroom Work
12:30 - 1:15	P.M.—Lunch and Noon Recess
1:15 - 1:45	P.M.—Classroom Work and Vocational Shop
1:45 - 2:15	P.M.—Classroom Work and Vocational Shop
2:15 - 2:45	P.M.—Classroom Work and Vocational Shop
2:45 - 3:30	P.M.—Classroom Work and Vocational Shop
3:30 - 5:30	P.M.—Physical Education and Free Time
5:30 - 6:30	P.M.—Evening Meal and Free Time
6:30 - 7:30	P.M.—Study Period
7:30 - 9:45	P.M.—Free Time
9:45	P.M.—Bed Time

CURRICULUM

FIRST GRADE	Reading, Writing, Spelling, Number Work, Health, Music and English.
SECOND GRADE	Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, Health, Music, and English.
THIRD GRADE	English, Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, Music, and Health.
FOURTH GRADE	English, Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, Music, Health and Geography.
FIFTH GRADE	Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, English, History, Geography, Health, Speech, and Shop Work.
SIXTH GRADE	Reading, English, Arithmetic, Writing, Spelling Health, Geography, Home Economics, Speech, and Shop.
SEVENTH GRADE	Arithmetic, Writing, Spelling, English, Literature, Health, Geography, Mississippi History, Home Economics, Speech, Typing, Piano Tuning, Vocational and Shop.
EIGHTH GRADE	English, Literature, Arithmetic, Spelling, Health, Geography, Mississippi History, Home Economics, Speech, Typing, Piano Tuning, Vocational and Shop.
NINTH GRADE	English, Literature, Business Arithmetic, Civics, Typing, Music, Home Economics, Piano Tuning, Speech, Vocational and Shop.
TENTH GRADE	English, World History, Physiology and Hygiene, Typing, Music, Home Economics, Piano Tuning, Speech, Vocational and Shop.
ELEVENTH GRADE	English, American History, General Science, Typing, Music, Home Economics, Vocational and Shop, Piano Tuning, Speech, Gardening and Cattle.
TWELTH GRADE	English, American Government, Biology, Typing, Music, Home Economics, Vocational, Piano Tuning, Speech, Gardening, Cattle, and Greenhouse.

Requirements for graduation:

12 Academic Units; 6 Units in Industrial Arts, Typing, Music, or Home Economics.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Mississippi School for the Blind is operated by the State of Mississippi for the education of children who meet the following requirements:

1. 20/100 vision or less in the better eye after correction, free from chronic infection, substantiated by a statement from a physician.
2. Seven to twenty-one years of age and of good moral character.
3. Mental capacity capable of educational progress.
4. Bonafide resident of the state.

It is necessary for a pupil to have a physical examination before entering school. He must have enough intelligence to be rehabilitated. The physical condition of the child should be such as to enable him to receive vocational training. If a pupil is crippled to the extent that he can not use his hands, it is impossible to teach him Braille and vocational work. The examination must show that the child has no contagious disease.

Students will be admitted after an application has been filed with all questions satisfactorily answered showing that he or she is qualified. Blank forms of application for admission will be furnished by the superintendent upon request.

Location — The school is located on U.S. Highway 51 north at Eastover Drive in the city of Jackson, Mississippi. Mailing address: 1252 Eastover Drive, Jackson 6, Mississippi.

Purpose of the School — To provide a means for the blind and partially blind children of Mississippi to:

1. Secure a thorough elementary and high school education equivalent to that afforded seeing children. The course of study parallels that of public schools with such variations as seems necessary to provide basic training of a specialized nature for blind children.
2. Learn a vocation commensurate with each pupil's ability, with a view toward enabling him to become self-supporting.
3. Develop a strong and healthy physique, capable of resisting disease and meeting the unusual physical strain inherent in the handicapped.
4. Develop into well rounded persons of normal habits and moral character enabling him to become an acceptable and contented member of the community.

Responsibility of Parents — Parents or Guardians are required to:

1. Provide transportation to and from the school.

2. Provide adequate clothing, plainly marked with full name of child. A form for listing clothing is sent prior to opening date of school and must be accurately filled out and returned when the child enters school so that a proper record of all clothing may be kept. We do not set any minimum or maximum of clothing for one to bring. The needs are about the same as the average child at home. In the past, some public-spirited citizens, civic clubs and churches have aided the pupils in getting ready for school in cases where the parents or guardians were not able to do so.

3. Provide personal essentials such as toilet articles including toothbrush and paste, and enough money to pay for haircuts and other minor personal needs.

4. Advise the Superintendent at once whenever there is contagious disease in the pupil's home so that proper precaution can be taken to prevent bringing it into the school.

5. Parents are encouraged to take their children home for week-ends other than those scheduled and to visit them at the school, as long as this does not hinder their educational progress. Parents and others are cordially invited to visit the school at any time. Parents are urged to visit the child's classroom in order to become familiar with and have a part in the child's education.

Medical Care — The school furnishes ordinary medical care for all of the children. Emergency dental work, treatments, and yearly check-up are provided by the school. Chest X-ray and typhoid immunization are provided each year through the State Department of Health. Parents and guardians are kept well informed as to the condition of their children and in case of serious illness, are immediately notified by telephone or telegraph.

Teachers — The teachers employed in the Mississippi School for the Blind are specially trained in the techniques of teaching the blind.

Housemothers — Housemothers are employed to supervise the children during the hours when they are not in the classrooms. Through this means the administration strives to duplicate as far as possible the home environment.

Dietary — A dietitian and staff are employed with the foremost thought that the food served is of vital importance. During the year well balanced and carefully prepared meals suitable for the growing children are served. A blind boy or girl needs a strong healthy body. In order to build this kind of physique a good balanced diet is needed.

Troop 38, Boy Scouts of America, Andrew Jackson Council, in cooperation with their sponsor, North Jackson Lions Club, packed and sold light bulbs to raise funds for the building of a boy scout hut on the campus.

Troop 44, Girl Scouts of America, organized on the school campus December 1956, has many outstanding activities and accomplishments in the scouting field to their credit. The troop is sponsored by Fondren Civitan Club.

The Cub Scouts, organized this past session, are shown with their den parents, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Wright, as they purchase their Cub Scout suits. A Brownie troop for the younger girls on the campus was also organized this past session.

KINDERGARTEN

Since blind children can not be admitted to the Mississippi School for the Blind until they are 7 years old, a definite need for a kindergarten was felt by the parents of blind children in Jackson. The project finding committee of the Junior League contacted the officials of the Mississippi School for the Blind and made arrangements to open a kindergarten in January 1957.

The Junior League financed this project through its community trust fund which included the teacher's salary, classroom equipment, and the pro rata share of the expenses of gas, lights and water. In addition to the financial assistance given to the School for the Blind, volunteer workers from the Junior League helped in the classroom and recreational activities.

Many parents over the state want their children to enter the Mississippi School for the Blind at the age of 6, the same age as children are admitted to the public schools and the Mississippi School for the Deaf. The experiment last session with this kindergarten proved beyond any doubt that the majority of blind children are ready to enter school when they reach the age of 6.

ENROLLMENT

July 1, 1955, to June 30, 1957

White

Girls —

Adams, Betty Elizabeth	Hattiesburg
Adams, Charlene	Hattiesburg
Anderson, Myra Sybil	Brandon
Bass, Marlon Dean	Prentiss
Bounds, Janice	Newton
Bounds, Linda	Newton
Brewer, Barbara	Yazoo City
Bridges, Billie Jean	Jackson
Brown, Anita Faye	Laurel
Burke, Frances Laverne	Tillatoba
Carlock, Nancy	Guntown
Carroll, Judy	Beaumont
Carroll, Peggy	Beaumont
Carroll, Dolly Luenell	Summit
Dunn, Paula Joyce	Brookhaven
Eskridge, Betty Rebecca	Starkville
Floyd, Rebecca Ann	Sardis
Ford, Rita Faye	Laurel
Gordon, Mittie Yvonne	Batesville
Goins, Tommie Louann	New Albany
Hudgens, Jean Elizabeth	Horn Lake
Jackson, Billie Joan	Jayess
Jaggers, Susan Elaine	Jackson
Jennings, Brenda	Blue Mountain
Johnson, Carolyn	Hattiesburg
LaPrade, Peggy Jane	Pontotoc
Lumpkin, Julie Faye	Carriere
Luoma, Lynn Lanier	Jackson
Miller, Jessie Mae	Coldwater
Moore, Peggy Ann	Blue Mountain
Myers, Louise Aileen	Jackson
Powers, Dorothy Louise	Jackson
Reed, Ada Kathryn	Brookhaven
Robinson, Doris Anna	New Albany
Ross, Joycelyn Louise	Biloxi
Strickland, Elizabeth Dianne	Osyka
Smith, Edith Elaine	Handsboro
Weaver, Bobbie Charleen	Clinton
Wilson, Tommie Laverne	Magnolia

Boys —

Anderson, Dan Henry	Brandon
Beard, William	Union

Benson, Kerry Donald ---------- Jackson
Bishop, Joe ---------- Conehatta
Boyd, Billy ---------- Columbus
Case, Doyle ---------- Brookhaven
Clemons, David Lamar ---------- Greenville
Crane, Gerald Max ---------- Pontotoc
Craine, Billy Earl ---------- Johns
Dettor, Calvin Douglas ---------- Sardis
Eaton, Joe Floyd ---------- Woodland
Grant, James Edward, Jr. ---------- Gulfport
Harrison, James Aubry ---------- Houston
Hansford, Truman Gerald ---------- West
Harris, Harold Randal ---------- Jackson
Hughes, Willard Wayne ---------- Bailey
Jackson, Finley, Jr. ---------- McComb
Jacobs, Larry ---------- Lawrence
Johnson, Harold Ray ---------- Hattiesburg
Kennerson, Benny ---------- Biloxi
Maddox, Dan ---------- Vaiden
Mayfield, Billy Vaughn ---------- Collins
Mabus, Ardyce Atlee ---------- Drew
Moore, James Coleman ---------- Greenville
Moody, Robert Lamar ---------- Brooklyn
McGaugh, Donald Hugh ---------- Jackson
McMillan, Len Ray ---------- Jackson
Prestage, John Elliot ---------- Lena
Pugh, Bobby ---------- Louin
Roberson, Charlie White ---------- Richton
Reeves, Bertis Douglas ---------- Laurel
Reed, Kenneth ---------- Brookhaven
Sarles, Richard ---------- Jackson
Shaidnagle, Joe ---------- Laurel
Shelden, Ivan ---------- Gulfport
Smith, Norris Edward ---------- Carson
Steen, Douglas ---------- Jackson
Tucker, John ---------- Jackson
Turnage, Cecil Pat ---------- Pascagoula
Turnage, Jimmy Wayne ---------- Pascagoula
Turnage, Roy Barrett ---------- Pascagoula
Upchurch, Robert Taylor ---------- Itta Bena
Voss, Carl William, Jr. ---------- Gulfport
Ward, Clyde Morris ---------- Jackson
West, Douglas Clark ---------- Jackson
Whitfield, Gerald ---------- Picayune

Colored

Ammon, Roger ---------- Greenwood
Amos, Wardell ---------- West Point
Arnold, Eva Faye ---------- Greenville

Ball, Catherine ..... Sandy Hook
Ball, Emma Jean ..... Sandy Hook
Boney, David Lee ..... Woodville
Bradley, Aaron ..... Natchez
Brewster, Matthew ..... Meridian
Brown, Fred Lee ..... Vicksburg
Carson, Camelia ..... Belzoni
Carter, A. E. ..... Jackson
Carter, Clyde ..... Hernando
Catching, Mary Willie ..... Tougaloo
Coleman, Rosie Lee ..... Inverness
Cotton, Edward David ..... Jackson
Diming, Clarence ..... Webb
Dixon, Elvin Marten ..... Woodville
Duckworth, Helen Ray ..... Taylorsville
Earnest, Clifton ..... Carthage
Edwards, Essie Lee ..... Carthage
Evans, Charles Earl ..... Jackson
Fisher, Wrent ..... Waynesboro
Foster, Sears Michael ..... Natchez
Foster, Walter ..... Natchez
Gatewood, Vennie Mae ..... Harperville
Grihm, Sammie ..... Liberty
Hardy, Samuel ..... Meridian
Harris, Clarence ..... Jackson
Hatchett, Vera Mae ..... Jackson
Hill, Leonard ..... Barnett
Holmes, Omie Jean ..... Lake
Horton, Lucy Mae ..... Coffeeville
Hughes, Lonnie ..... Kosciusko
Jackson, John Hilbert ..... Brandon
Jones, Holitan ..... Okolona
Kees, Ernestine ..... Brookhaven
Lee, Ruby Jean ..... Jackson
Lee, Ruth ..... Jackson
Lockett, James ..... Greenville
McAllister, Jessie ..... Coahoma
McBride, Margarette ..... Jackson
McDonald, James Earl ..... Taylorsville
McPhearson, Annie Rine ..... Pontotoc
Mealey, Mattie O. ..... Woodville
Miller, Willie ..... Phillip
Morris, Velma Lee ..... Stoneville
Montgomery, Mable L. ..... Saucier
Montgomery, Paul ..... Saucier
Myers, Samuel Joseph ..... Montrose
Oliver, Andrew ..... Electric Mills
Penermon, Robert James ..... Jonestown

Pierce, La Morris ..... Lyon
Pitts, Georgia L. ..... Greenville
Ramsey, Clara Mae ..... Meridian
Saffold, Dorothy Mae ..... Lexington
Schaffer, L. J. ..... Bentonia
Slaughter, Roosevelt ..... Jonestown
Shelton, Robert ..... Kilmichael
Smith, Beaulah ..... Jackson
Sterling, Jeffery ..... Fort Adams
Thomas, Ruby Louise ..... Clarksdale
Thompson, Barbara Jean ..... Tougaloo
Walker, Scott ..... Meridian
Warren, Lafayette ..... Hattiesburg
White, Sybel ..... Noxapater
Williams, Ezekial ..... Pascagoula
Williams, Nadine ..... Redwood
Woodall, Shirley Ann ..... Oxford
Woods, Elvia ..... Mound Bayou

TRAVEL

Delegates of the Mississippi School for the Blind to the Biennial Workshop of the American Association of Instructors of the Blind held in Worthington, Ohio, June 23-June 29, 1956, were Mrs. E. E. Allen, Mrs. F. B. Pittman, Mr. and Mrs. Carl H. Nowell, and Superintendent John W. Eakes. Workshop expenses:

Travel by car — 5 delegates — 1925.7 miles	$115.54
Registration, meals and rooms at workshop and to and from workshop	188.51
Total workshop expense	$304.05

Expenses of Superintendent John W. Eakes to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky:

October, 1955	$ 59.54
October, 1956	67.00
	$126.54

Books and other teaching supplies and materials are furnished by the American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.

School travel in private car for visiting prospective students and other necessary out of city travel for the Mississippi School for the Blind from July 1, 1955 through June 30, 1957 totaled 2,779.3 miles. Reimbursement of $166.76 was made to the Superintendent for this travel at the rate of six cents per mile.

John W. Eakes, Superintendent